

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 122-75  
6 AUGUST 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP86T00508R000300010024-3

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1 OF 1

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## OUTGOING MESSAGE

ROUTING	1 2 3	4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 0 1 2	PAGE	OF	PAGES
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CLASSIFICATION

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INDEX      DISSEM BY:  
 SUB INDEX  
 RETURN TO PER  
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EUROPEAN BRIEF 122-75.4

1. PORTUGAL: VIOLENCE CONTINUED ON TUESDAY IN NORTHERN PORTUGAL AS THE COUNTRY'S TOP MILITARY LEADERS, INCLUDING PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES, PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES, AND SECURITY CHIEF CARVALHO, MET AGAIN IN LISBON TO DISCUSS THE DIVISION OF EXECUTIVE POWER.<sup>4</sup>

GONCALVES MET BRIEFLY WITH SOME MEMBERS OF HIS FORMER CABINET, APPARENTLY TO GIVE THE APPEARANCE THAT THE COUNTRY'S AFFAIRS ARE BEING ADMINISTERED BY A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT. TOP CIVILIAN PARTY LEADERS SUCH AS SOCIALIST PARTY HEAD MARIO SOARES AND COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ALVARO CUNHAL WERE EXCLUDED.<sup>4</sup>

IN NORTHERN PORTUGAL, HUNDREDS OF DEMONSTRATORS SACKED OFFICES AND APARTMENTS OF KNOWN COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS IN FAMALICAO, WHERE TWO DEMONSTRATORS WERE SHOT TO DEATH MONDAY. A CROWD OF SOME 34,000 BURNED COMMUNIST PARTY HEADQUARTERS IN NEARBY SANTO TERSO. SIMILAR ANTI-COMMUNIST VIOLENCE HAS BEEN REPORTED IN SEVERAL OTHER AREAS. A NORTHERN

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INDEX      DISSEM BY:  
 GO INDEX  
 RETURN TO PER

POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PEOPLE ARE MOBILIZING IN MANY VILLAGES TO "FINISH OFF THE COMMUNISTS."

THE VISITING MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE AZORES,  
GENERAL MAGALHAES, WHO HAS STRONG FAMILY TIES IN THE  
NORTH, HAS SAID THAT THERE IS A STRONG SEPARATIST MOVEMENT  
IN NORTHERN PORTUGAL. THE MOVEMENT, ACCORDING TO MAGALHAES,  
MAY SOON BEGIN INCITING THE PEOPLE TO "RISE UP" AGAINST  
THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.<sup>4</sup>

A BOMB EXPLODED ON TUESDAY IN LISBON OUTSIDE A GOVERNMENT OFFICE. OPERATIVES OF THE RIGHTIST PORTUGUESE LIBERATION ARMY OPERATING OUT OF SPAIN REPORTEDLY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SIMILAR INCIDENTS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO.<sup>4</sup>

COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO INFILTRATE AND CONTROL  
KEY MILITARY UNITS HAVE ALSO SUFFERED A REVERSAL.  
LAST WEEK, THEY APPEARED TO HAVE SUCCEEDED IN OUSTING  
A CONSERVATIVE COMMANDER, COLONEL NEVES, AND HIS  
SUPPORTERS FROM THE AMADORA COMMANDO REGIMENT, OUTSIDE

DATE:  
ORIG:  
UNIT:  
EXT:

## OUTGOING MESSAGE

1		4		7	
2		5		8	
3		6		9	

PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES

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MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE/TIME (ZRO) P

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF INFO FILE

INDEX      DISSEM BY:  
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 RETURN TO PER  
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OF LISBON. AFTER AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION, HOWEVER, NEVES AND HIS MEN WERE REINSTATED AND COURT-MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS WERE ORDERED FOR THE COMMUNIST INSTIGATORS. THE AMADORA DECISION SHOULD NOT ONLY REINFORCE FLAGGING MILITARY DISCIPLINE, BUT ALSO GIVE BADLY NEEDED ENCOURAGEMENT TO MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO OPPOSE COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THEIR UNITS. {SECRET}4

2. YUGOSLAVIA: THE ARREST OF SEVEN COMINFORMISTS IN CROATIA LAST WEEK WILL FORCE THE YUGOSLAV LEADERSHIP TO TAKE ANOTHER LONG, HARD LOOK AT CROAT PROBLEMS.4

THE SURFACING OF PRO-SOVIET ACTIVITY IN CROATIA WILL HAVE A SOBERING EFFECT, PRIMARILY BECAUSE THE REPUBLIC IS A POTENTIAL HOTBED OF OPPPOSITION TO THE SERBS. CROATIAN MORALE HAS NEVER COMPLETELY RECOVERED FROM TITO'S 1971-72 PURGE OF POPULAR LEADERS WHO HAD GONE TOO FAR IN APPEASING NATIONALIST AND SEPARATIST PRESSURES. MOREOVER, THE REPUBLIC HAS A TROUBLED, THOUGH WELL-DEVELOPED, ECONOMY WHICH SOME TOP LEADERS

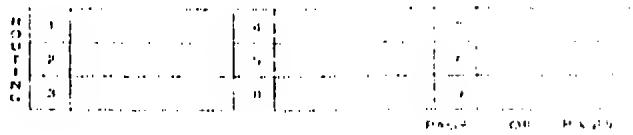
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DATA CENTER USE ONLY

PAGE

MESSAGE DESTINATION SOURCE

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CROATIA BELIEVE IS VULNERABLE TO COMINFORMIST SUBVERSION.<sup>4</sup>

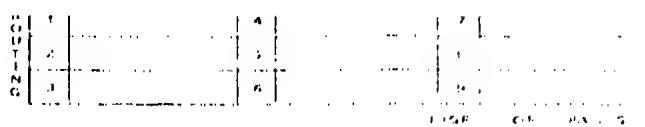
A COTERIE OF LACKLUSTER YES-MEN HAS RUN THE REPUBLIC SINCE THE PURGE. EFFECTIVE POWER HAS SLIPPED FROM THE REGIME IN ZAGREB TO LOCAL CONSERVATIVE GROUPS, SUCH AS THE SERBIAN-DOMINATED VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND THE INTERNAL SECURITY APPARATUS. EXTREME CONSERVATIVES IN THESE GROUPS HAVE OFTEN CALLED FOR A "FIRM HAND" AGAINST LIBERALS AND CROAT NATIONALISTS.<sup>4</sup>

THE ARREST OF THE COMINFORMISTS, HOWEVER, WILL UNDERCUT ADVOCATES OF THE "FIRM HAND" BECAUSE THEIR LINE CLOSELY RESEMBLES THE PROGRAM OFFERED BY THE PRO-SOVIET SUBVERSIVES. PROONENTS OF A MORE RELAXED AND CONCILIATORY APPROACH IN ZAGREB WILL PRESS THIS ADVANTAGE IN HOPES OF SOFTENING THE ADVERSARY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REGIME AND THE PEOPLE.<sup>4</sup>

VLADIMIR BAKARIC, CROATIA'S PARTY CHIEF AND TITO'S VICE PRESIDENT IN THE STATE COLLECTIVE PRESIDENCY, WILL PROBABLY HEAD THE MOVEMENT FOR RELAXATION OF THE REPUB-

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LIC'S DOMESTIC POLICY. HE HAS, FOR EXAMPLE, RECENTLY PROPOSED THAT THE PARTY REVIEW CONTROLS OVER THE INTERNAL SECURITY APPARATUS TO ENSURE THAT THE POLICE AND THE MILITARY DO NOT BECOME A POWER ABOVE THE PEOPLE. (CONFIDENTIAL) E-2 IMPDET-H

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

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MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE/TIME GROUP

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 122-75.4

1. SOUTH VIETNAM: COMMUNIST OFFICIALS APPARENTLY ARE PREPARING THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FOR POSSIBLE FOOD SHORTAGES LATER THIS YEAR AND NEXT. RECENT PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS HAVE STRESSED THAT "FAMINE," CAUSED BY THE OLD CAPITALIST-ORIENTED AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM, "WILL CONTINUE TO WREAK A DISASTROUS IMPACT FOR A LONG TIME TO COME AS IT CANNOT BE OVERCOME IMMEDIATELY." [43]

RICE STOCKS ARE PROBABLY LARGE ENOUGH TO LAST UNTIL THE NEXT HARVEST THIS AUTUMN. LOCALIZED SHORTAGES ARE OCCURRING IN URBAN AREAS AND IN THE TRADITIONAL RICE-DEFICIT PROVINCES NORTH OF SAIGON. THESE REFLECT DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS RATHER THAN A SHORTAGE OF RICE. [4]

RICE OUTPUT THIS AUTUMN, HOWEVER, WILL BE LOWER THAN LAST YEAR'S RECORD CROP OF 7 MILLION TONS. MANY PEASANTS FLED THEIR FARMS DURING THE TURMOIL OF THE COMMUNIST TAKE-OVER IN APRIL. THE PROFIT-ORIENTED PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SYSTEM OF THE PAST HAS BEEN UPSET, AND

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SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN  
RESETTLED.<sup>4</sup>

THE COMMUNISTS HAVE THUS FAR AVOIDED A RUSH TO COLLECTIVIZE THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. THEY PROBABLY RECOGNIZE THAT SUCH A MOVE WOULD DISRUPT PRODUCTION EVEN MORE. INSTEAD, COMMUNAL FARMING HAS BEEN INTRODUCED ONLY IN PREVIOUSLY SETTLED COMMUNIST AREAS, REFUGEE RESETTELEMENTS, AND ON NEWLY OPENED FARMLANDS PROVIDED TO URBAN EMIGRANTS.<sup>4</sup>

THESE EFFORTS ARE UNLIKELY TO OFFSET EXPECTED PRODUCTION DECLINES. GAINS IN RICE OUTPUT OVER THE LAST DECADE, WHICH AVERAGED ABOUT 5 PERCENT ANNUALLY, RESULTED LARGELY FROM NEW GROWING METHODS, SUCH AS PLANTING HIGH-YIELDING RICE VARIETIES, AND EXTENSIVE USE OF CHEMICALS AND MACHINES. THE CHANGE IN AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES UNDER THE COMMUNISTS WILL UNDERCUT PREVIOUS GAINS AND MAKE LONGER TERM GROWTH MORE DIFFICULT. ECONFI-

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 122-75-4

ECUADOR: INFLATION IS THREATENING TO DO SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP THAT THE LEFT-LEANING RODRIGUEZ ADMINISTRATION HAS MAINTAINED WITH THE COUNTRY'S LABOR MOVEMENT OVER THE THREE YEARS OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT.<sup>4</sup>

ECUADOR'S OIL BOOM, WHICH LASTED FROM LATE 1972 UNTIL EARLY THIS YEAR, FUELED PETROLEUM REVENUES--OR AT LEAST THE PROMISE OF SUCH REVENUES--INTO MANY WORKING-CLASS GROUPS. IN ADDITION, EVEN WHEN INFLATION BECAME A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE ECUADOREAN ECONOMY ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO, WORKERS WERE GENERALLY ABLE TO CASH IN ON THE MOMENTUM OF THE BOOM YEARS, WINNING MOST OF THE WAGE INCREASES THEY SOUGHT. NOW, HOWEVER, WITH INFLATION IN THE 25 PERCENT ANNUAL RANGE, REAL WAGES ARE CLEARLY DECLINING AND MANY WORKERS--STILL CLINGING TO THE BOOM MENTALITY--HAVE BEGUN TO BELIEVE THAT OIL IMPROVES THE LOT ONLY OF THE RICH. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE NUMBER OF LABOR DISPUTES HAS INCREASED SHARPLY OVER THE PAST YEAR.<sup>4</sup>

MINISTER OF WELFARE AND LABOR RAMIRO LABREA, A CIVILIAN WHO HAS HELD THAT POST SINCE FEBRUARY 1974, HAS TRIED VALIANTLY AND IN

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LARGE PART SUCCESSFULLY TO MAINTAIN A REASONABLY GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND LABOR. HE HAS ENCOURAGED THE NEGOTIATION OF NEW LABOR-MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF WHICH HAS NOW REACHED ABOUT EIGHT COMPARED WITH ONLY TWO IN 1962. HE HAS ALSO PROMPTED THE GOVERNMENT TO CURB THE COUNTRY'S MULTITUDE OF LABOR LAWYERS, WHOSE INFLAMMATORY ACTIVITIES IN THE INTEREST OF SELF-ENRICHMENT HAVE LONG OUTRAGED LABOR UNIONS.<sup>4</sup>

THERE IS CURRENTLY AN INSIDIOUS EROSION OF GOVERNMENT-LABOR RELATIONS, HOWEVER. THIS IS A GROWING CONCERN TO THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS ENJOYED A LONGER LIFE AND GREATER POPULARITY THAN MOST ECUADOREAN REGIMES IN LARGE PART BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT OF LABOR. AS THAT SUPPORT SLOWLY DECLINES, GOVERNMENT LEADERS ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO LOSE SOME OF THE CONFIDENCE THAT ONE CHARACTERIZED THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. SUCH A CHANGE COULD IMPAIR THE EFFICIENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OR, ALTERNATIVELY, NUDGE IT IN THE DIRECTION OF AUTHORITARIANISM.

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PAGE OF PAGES

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**MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 122-75-4**

1. ANGOLA: FIGHTING BETWEEN THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA AND THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA HAS SPREAD SOUTH OF LUANDA. THE FIGHTING APPEARS TO BE ON A RELATIVELY MODEST SCALE, BUT COULD ESCALATE AT ANY TIME. TRADITIONAL TRIBAL TIES IN THE AREA TO A THIRD INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT, THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA, MAY DRAW THE NATIONAL UNION INTO THE CONFLICT.<sup>4</sup>

MEANWHILE, THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY DELEGATION THAT VISITED LUANDA LAST WEEKEND HAS RETURNED TO LISBON, LEAVING BEHIND CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION BUT NO HARD EVIDENCE OF WHAT POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS IT WILL MAKE TO LISBON. MANY PORTUGUESE MILITARY OFFICIALS IN LISBON AND LUANDA SYMPATHIZE WITH THE POPULAR MOVEMENT AND ARE PROBABLY URGING IN PRIVATE THAT THE TERRITORY BE TURNED OVER TO IT. SUCH A DECISION, HOWEVER, WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO INVITING FULL-SCALE WAR THROUGHOUT ANGOLA.<sup>4</sup>

THE POPULAR MOVEMENT AND THE NATIONAL FRONT APPEAR TO BE AWAITING NEW POLITICAL SIGNALS FROM LISBON. FOR THE TIME BEING,

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DATE/TIME/GROUP

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF: INFO. FILE

INDEX      DISSEM BY:  
 NO INDEX  
 RETURN TO PER

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THEY SEEM CONTENT TO STRING OUT THEIR WAR OF ATTRITION AND WAIT FOR LISBON TO MAKE THE NEXT MOVE. {SECRET}4

2. IRAQ-SYRIA: BAGHDAD'S EFFORTS TO UNDERCUT SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD AT HOME AND IN THE ARAB WORLD SHOW NO SIGN OF ABATING. MEANWHILE, PRESS STORIES COMING OUT OF DAMASCUS ARE BEMOANING A SHORTAGE OF WATER IN THE ALEPPO REGION; THESE MAY BE PRECURSORS TO SYRIA REDUCING THE FLOW OF EUPHRATES RIVER WATER TO IRAQ.4

THE LATEST VOLLEY IN THE IRAQI PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST SYRIA OCCURRED ON AUGUST 4 WHEN BAGHDAD REPEATED EARLIER ALLEGATIONS THAT DAMASCUS IS HARASSING PALESTINIAN FEDAYEEN AND CONDUCTING A CAMPAIGN OF "OBNOXIOUS TERRORISM" AGAINST SYRIANS WHO OPPOSE ASAD'S "CAPITULATIONIST POLICIES." AN IRAQI AIDE MEMOIRE OF JULY 24 CHARGED SYRIA WITH 15 LAND AND AIR ENCROACHMENTS SINCE LATE FEBRUARY.4

DAMASCUS IS RESPONDING TO BAGHDAD'S CHARGES IN KIND. IT HAS ALSO PERMITTED JALAL TALABANI'S ANTI-IRAQI KURDISTAN NATIONAL UNION TO BE BASED IN SYRIA, ADDING FUEL TO THE

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DISPUTE. THE TWO SIDES HAVE CLOSED TRADE OFFICES, RECALLED ATTACHES, AND ENDED AIRLINE FLIGHTS BETWEEN BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS.<sup>4</sup>

IN THE PAST WEEK THE SYRIAN PRESS HAS BEEN GIVING HEAVY COVERAGE TO ALLEGEDLY SERIOUS WATER SHORTAGES IN ALEPPO AND HUNDREDS OF SURROUNDING VILLAGES. THE SYRIANS ARE ATTRIBUTING THE SITUATION TO THEIR DECISION IN EARLY JUNE TO RELEASE MORE EUPHRATES RIVER WATER AS A CONCILIATORY GESTURE TO IRAQ. THERE HAVE BEEN NO EXPLICIT DEMANDS FOR A CUT-BACK SO FAR, BUT THE SYRIANS ARE OBVIOUSLY BUILDING A PUBLIC CASE FOR REDUCING THE FLOW. AT THIS TIME WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE SYRIAN CLAIM ABOUT A WATER SHORTAGE IS VALID OR WHETHER IT IS A PLOY BY DAMASCUS TO MAKE BAGHDAD CURB ITS PROPAGANDA ATTACKS AND ALLEGED INTERFERENCE IN SYRIAN AFFAIRS. ECON-

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